

Preliminary Amendment  
Application No. 09/994,301  
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*123  
Con'cl*

16. (Amended) Computer software and such software installed on a computer software carrier for carrying out at least one of the steps of the method of claim 1.

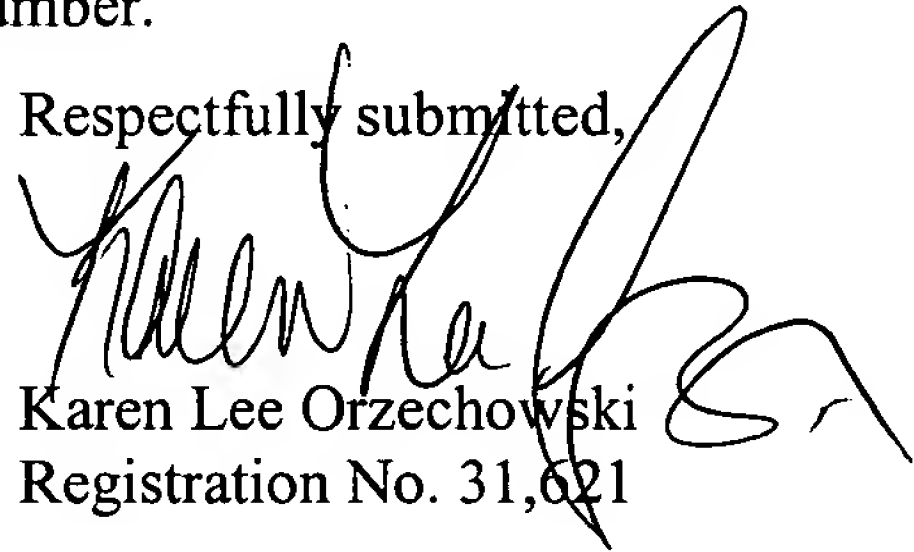
### REMARKS

These amendments are made solely for the purposes of eliminating multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added.

A substitute page 1 showing the inserted material is enclosed herewith and attached hereto is an Appendix setting forth the specific changes made in the above claims.

Should the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this application, kindly telephone the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 308-2742 on February 11, 2002.	I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on February 11, 2002.
<u>Karen Lee Orzechowski</u>	<u>Karen Lee Orzechowski</u>

## APPENDIX

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [or claim 2] , wherein the battery condition information includes the current battery absolute capacity.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 3], wherein the battery condition information is transmitted and stored with an identifier identifying the particular mobile radio unit.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 4], wherein the battery condition information is displayed by the mobile radio unit.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 5], wherein the battery condition information is determined by the mobile radio unit.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 6], wherein a battery charger determines the battery's condition and communicates it to the battery or mobile radio unit.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 7], wherein the battery condition information is provided to the data store or database periodically, at regular intervals.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 8], wherein the mobile radio units automatically transmit the battery condition information to the data store or database.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 9], wherein the mobile radio units transmit the battery condition information in response to a request from the data store or database.

11. (Amended) The method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 10], wherein the transmission of the battery condition information uses the Short Data Service of a TETRA (TErrestrial TRunked RAdio) system.

14. (Amended) The system of claim 12 [or claim 13], wherein the battery condition information includes the current battery absolute capacity.

15. (Amended) The system of claim 12 [any one of claims 12 to 14], wherein the battery condition information is transmitted and stored with an identifier identifying the particular mobile radio unit.

16. (Amended) Computer software and such software installed on a computer software carrier for carrying out at least one of the steps of the method of claim 1 [any one of claims 1 to 11].

A Method of and an Apparatus for Monitoring the  
Condition of Batteries used by a Mobile Radio  
Telecommunications Fleet

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/809,345 filed on March 15, 2001, now abandoned, as the National Stage Application of PCT/GB99/03078 filed September 16, 1999, now abandoned.

The present invention relates to a method of and an apparatus for monitoring the condition of batteries used to power mobile radio units of a mobile radio telecommunications fleet.

Mobile radio units for use in mobile radio telecommunications systems are usually powered by batteries, at least for part of the time. As is known in the art, all batteries have a finite life and degrade over time, such that the operational life of the same battery when fully charged will over time decrease and in particular be less than the nominal operational life of the battery. This can be a problem if a minimum length of mobile radio use is required (for example the length of a police shift), as batteries which can nominally last long enough may in practice not be able to do so.

It is often important therefore to users of mobile radios to be able to identify and discard swiftly substandard or unsuitable batteries. This is particularly the case for operators of larger fleets of mobile radio units, where a pool of batteries is shared by the fleet. In this case batteries may be constantly in use over multiple shifts and used by different individuals, and yet controllers or managers of the mobile radio fleet will wish to be able to readily identify and discard unsuitable batteries from the pool. This problem is compounded because individual batteries in the pool will 'age' at different rates, e.g. depending on usage patterns and other factors. This makes it more difficult to predict which batteries need replacing.